

UNCLASSIFIED

12/6/79

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: [REDACTED]
Document Number: 1979GENEVA19606

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Channel: n/a

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /031 W

R 061117Z DEC 79
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0507
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

-----104234 081500Z /41

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
() Release (X) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): B6
Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date Declassify on Reason

[REDACTED] GENEVA 19606

DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12065: GDS 12/6/85 (PALMER, STEVE) OR-M
TAGS: SHUM, CI, AR, ICRC
SUBJECT: ALLEGED ARGENTINE CLANDESTINE PRISON

REF: (A) STATE 306651 (B) SANTIAGO 8010 (C) GENEVA 15810

1. ([REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. HA OFF MET WITH ICRC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DEC. 5 TO GO OVER THE REYES STATEMENT.
ICRC IS UNABLE TO CONFIRM ANY OF HIS ASSERTIONS AND DOUBTS
THE RELIABILITY OF THE STATEMENT. [REDACTED] CITED THE
FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) THE RIO NEGRO CAMP IS KNOWN TO HAVE
BEEN USED AS A RELOCATION CAMP FOR CHILEAN NATIONALS, BOTH
REFUGEES AND ILLEGAL MIGRANTS. ICRC HAS NO EVIDENCE THAT
IT WAS EVER USED FOR POLITICAL DETAINEES. FOLLOWING THE
INITIAL REPORTS OF THE REYES INFORMATION ICRC'S DELEGATE
AGAIN MADE INQUIRIES, BUT NO NEW INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED.
(B) THERE IS NO RECORD THAT ICRC DELEGATES VISITED THE RIO
NEGRO CAMP, AND CERTAINLY NOT BY PLANE IN THE MANNER DES-
CRIBED. IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM THE REYES STATEMENT WHETHER
THE TWO "REPRESENTATIVES FROM ICRC" DESCRIBED THEMSELVES
IN THAT MATTER OR WHETHER THEIR IDENTITY WAS INFERRED

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FROM THE MARKINGS ON THE PLANE. [REDACTED] WONDERED WHETHER
THE USG WAS ALSO CONTACTING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO SEEK

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CONFIRMATION OF THE VISIT. (C) THE AIRCRAFT MARKINGS, IF ACCURATELY REMEMBERED BY REYES, ARE PECULIAR. AIRCRAFT USED BY RED CROSS WOULD NORMALLY BE MARKED EITHER "C.I.C.R." OR "C.R.A." (CRUZ ROJA DE ARGENTINA). (D) CONCERNING THE THREE FRENCH NUNS, [REDACTED] NOTED PUBLIC STATEMENTS MADE IN PARIS ONE MONTH AGO BY FRENCH NUNS WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED IN 1978 TO BE "EDUCATED" FOR PROPAGANDA WORK. THEY HAD BEEN CONFINED AT AN ARGENTINE NAVAL BASE. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ALSO CITED REPORT OF ARGENTINE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN MADRID (CADHU). (E) ICRC/SANTIAGO OFFICE EMPLOYEE HAD BEEN ASKED TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW REYES. [REDACTED] PRESUMED THAT REYES WOULD HAVE LEARNED OF THIS AND WONDERED WHY REYES WOULD NOT HAVE MADE CONTACT.

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3. [REDACTED] REGRETTED THAT ICRC COULD NOT VERIFY REYES ACCOUNT. HE RECALLED A REPORT THAT THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES HAD ALSO BEEN LOOKING INTO THE RIO NEGRO QUESTION (REF C) AND INQUIRED WHETHER WE HAD RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION FROM THAT SOURCE. PALMER

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